

It amazes me. But there is an irresponsible bias today against religion within this land. Our history is being distorted to exclude the contributions that have been made to freedom by religious Christian people. Our culture is hostile to our beliefs . . . especially to evangelical Christians. You probably saw on one of the network's news magazines recently about a church outside Dallas, Texas, where the young people were trying to reach other young people for Jesus and how that became a major issue. And that is the attitude today: "Who in the world do you think you are, asserting that Jesus is the only way a person can know God?"

Dangerous legislation and rulings are attacking our beliefs today. The Supreme Court ruled last week concerning late term abortions, partial birth abortion. And, it was referred to as a fundamental right. And I ask the question, how in the world . . . when did it become a fundamental right to take the life of an unborn child that is partially born in the birth canal? Now, that is a fundamental right!

Another example is the Supreme Court's recent ruling concerning creation. In a Louisiana case, a school board had ordered teachers who teach evolution to offer a disclaimer to students. The disclaimer would emphasize that evolution is a theory and the teaching of it was not meant to contradict the biblical version of creation. The teachers were ordered to suggest that students form their own opinions or adopt those of their parents. The Supreme Court declared that innocuous policy unconstitutional. So, even the suggestion that there is another theory of creation is off limits in schools. We have to guard our freedoms—our religious and our civil freedoms—because they, too, are being eroded.

And we must be consistently faithful to our spiritual heritage. Friends, our heritage is spiritual. Our foundation is religious. America was founded on faith.

When Columbus sailed from Spain to come to this land, he prayed asking God for divine guidance. He believed that he was on a divine mission. He put a cross on the lead ship, and when he came to the shores of this land, he took the cross and planted it in the sand and dedicated this continent to God.

The pilgrims, when they came, stated their purpose was "for the glory of God and the advancement of the Christian faith." This country was born in faith, it was established in faith. George Washington at Valley Forge prayed for guidance. Abraham Lincoln and other presidents have called this nation to repentance, and throughout our history, we have been sustained by faith. I'm absolutely convinced there would be no America today if it were not for people of faith. If it were not for the prayers and the sacrifice and the commitment of the people of God, we would not be here this morning. Consistency secures freedom.

Thirdly, CAUTION THAT PROTECTS FREEDOM. Verse one again, "It was for freedom that Christ set us free, therefore, keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery." What are our greatest enemies to freedom? Well, I suppose we could come up with a lot of ideas and suggestions, but I think one is selfishness. We have become a very selfish people far more motivated by what's in it for me rather than what's best for America. And, many of us have been surprised to learn, without any question at all during these past years, that if the economy is good in this nation, nothing else really matters. If the economy is good, it doesn't matter. Selfishness. Another

enemy is indifference. We are indifferent and impotent as we see our freedoms being eroded. Another is comfort. Comfort is more important for us than freedom. We are not willing to make ourselves uncomfortable to secure the freedoms that we say we cherish.

Freedom always required sacrifice from those who would be free. I've gone back and read about Moses when he was willing to risk his own life for the freedom of the Hebrew people. As he stood before Pharaoh boldly declaring, "Let my people go," he was willing to sacrifice his life for freedom. In 1775, Patrick Henry delivered a speech to the Second Revolutionary Convention of Virginia. He concluded that speech with these words, "Is life so dear and peace so sweet as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery?"

Forbid it, almighty God. I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty or give me death." A sacrifice. Are we willing to sacrifice for freedom? George Washington said in his first inaugural address, "It is a strenuous thing, this living the life of a free people." Are we willing to make that kind of sacrifice? Probably most of you have been to Washington, D.C., and you have seen the statue that is atop the U.S. Capitol building. The statue is of a woman, and she is called "Freedom Lady." She came here from Rome. When she was being transported to America, there was a fierce storm that developed in the ocean. Soldiers thought the ship was going to capsize, that they were going to lose everything, including their lives. And so they began to throw the nonessentials overboard to lighten the ship. And, as the winds continued to blow, they asked the captain if they could throw the statue over. He replied, "No, never. We'll founder before we throw 'Freedom' away." "We'll founder before we through 'Freedom' away." Our freedom has been bought by those willing to make sacrifices, and our freedom is kept by those who are willing to make sacrifices. It was for freedom that Christ set us free. Therefore, keep standing firm and do not be subject again to the yoke of slavery.

Our gracious Father and God, this morning as we think about the sacrifices that have been made, and the freedom that we sometimes take for granted, Lord, please stir our hearts again. Lord, help us to understand how important these blessings are. Help us to be people who will stand up for righteousness, that our convictions will mean something to us, that we will not sacrifice them regardless of what others do, no matter what the cost might be. Lord, may we be salt in this world that is corrupting spiritually. May we be light in this world that is so spiritually dark. Help us to begin lighting a light that will shine throughout our homes, our neighborhoods, across our city, our state and this land.

As our heads are bowed and eyes are closed. . . . We talk about freedom. Freedom comes from a relationship with Jesus Christ. And, my friend, regardless as to what you have, if you do not have Jesus, you are not free. He gives us freedom. Today, if you are without Christ, would you give your heart to Him, would you invite Him into your life to be your Savior? There are some of you who need to get serious about your walk with the Lord. You have taken it for granted, God's goodness for granted. Let me encourage you today, if you need to rededicate your life to the Lord, you do so. If you need a church home, someone to join with, be a part of, our doors are open to you. We would love to have you as part of this family. What would God have you do today? As the Holy Spirit

searches your heart and as you listen to Him reverently, I am going to ask that you stand with me, please. As we stand, the choir sings. As they sing, if you are willing to make a commitment to the Lord Jesus, join the church, rededicate your life, you come and I'll greet you.

## NO VIABLE POLICY FOR AFRICA

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2000*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, the President has spoken of the need for consistent and dedicated leadership in world affairs as the keystones to abiding and lasting peace in the world. I would observe that there certainly has been a consistency in the leadership from this administration in African affairs—a consistent lack of a viable policy to improve the lives of the persecuted peoples on the African continent.

I rise today to express my profound disappointment with the Clinton Administration's policies toward Sierra Leone, in particular, and Africa in general. To be sure, there are many good people who have tried to implement worthy and thoughtful policies regarding Africa during the tenure of this Administration. But the problem with this Administration's Africa policy is that more often than not, the voices that should have been heard, have not carried the day.

"African Renaissance" Hailed by Clinton Now a Distant Memory" is the title of a recent article in the Los Angeles Times by Robin Wright. Ms. Wright says that just two years ago, President Clinton hailed what he called an "African renaissance." Now, despite several years of rhetoric on Africa by the Clinton administration, this article states that a recent national intelligence estimate says that "Africa faces a bleaker future than at any time in the past century."

President Clinton has traveled more than almost any other President. He has had first hand experiences throughout Africa, more experience and actual time in Africa than any other President. But all of his time there only amounted to photo opportunities and handshakes, amounting to substance-free public relations.

Because of his time in Africa, he should have and could have done so much more. The death, suffering, and destruction that has occurred over the past eight years needed more than a touch down by Air Force One. This Administration lost an opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of millions of Africans. As a result of its inaction and lack of vision, millions of people have died in Africa during the Clinton Administration's watch. The past eight years could have been different if energy, attention, and rectitude had been applied.

This Administration floundered, delayed, and refused to take timely action in the face of the genocide that occurred in Rwanda. Perhaps close to a million people died during the slaughter of Tutsis and this Administration did nothing as reports flowed into the U.S. about the potential for and outbreak of this genocide.

This Administration did nothing during the violence.

More recently, in Sierra Leone, thousands of people have been killed, maimed, and tortured and hundreds of thousands of people became refugees at the hands of brutal rebel forces. I have been to Sierra Leone and I have seen first-hand results of the Sierra Leonian rebels atrocities. In December of last year, Congressman HALL and I went to an amputee camp, a camp set up for the survivors of the rebels' machetes. At the amputee camp, we met thousands of people who are lucky to be alive. The people we met were the survivors—those who did not bleed to death as they struggled to flee the rebels who had just cut off their arms, legs, or ears.

No one was spared the brutal, grotesque, and evil actions of the rebels. Infant babies had their arms and legs cut off. Young men in the prime of their life suddenly had half of a leg. Women were raped by rebels and then had their limbs amputated—only to give birth several months later as a result of the rape they suffered.

What motivated these rebels of Sierra Leone? What gave the rebels incentive to launch their horrible rampage? The answer is diamonds. They want to profit and control and trade in Sierra Leone's vast diamond wealth. And the rebels in Sierra Leone received weapons and support in exchange for their diamonds from Liberian President Charles Taylor.

I have repeatedly asked this Administration to name all those involved in the atrocities, Sierra Leonians and Liberians, as war criminals, and I have repeatedly asked the Administration to seriously address the issue of conflict diamonds. The control and trafficking of conflict diamonds in Sierra Leone and several other African countries has fueled and funded rebel movements that otherwise had little to no sources of income.

On March 16 in a letter to Secretary of State Albright I wrote:

Congressman Hall has introduced legislation, H.R. 3188, to certify the country of origin of all diamonds. Thus a diamond buyer will know where a diamond has been mined and a purchaser can avoid buying conflict diamonds. Passage of Congressman Hall's bill will be a huge stride in ending this practice. Your support for this important legislation would be very helpful.

Promised U.S. action if the rebels do not comply with the conditions for disarmament should be:

They and their families will not be allowed entry into the U.S., Britain or any other country—no visas should be issued to rebels or their family members;

If the rebels have bank accounts in the U.S. and in Europe, they should be frozen and they should be denied access to these accounts and to future commerce with the U.S., bank accounts of rebel family members should be included in this prohibition too;

The rebel leaders should be declared war criminals by the U.S. and other Western countries and direct its intelligence and police agencies to actively pursue apprehending rebels who have not disarmed.

These same conditions should also be applied to Liberian Charles Taylor and all Liberians who have assisted the rebels in Sierra Leone. It has come to my attention that Taylor escaped from a Massachusetts prison and fled to Liberia. Taylor and many Liberians have blood on their hands from their

support of these rebels. By being the primary conduit for trading the conflict diamonds mined by the rebels, and by reportedly supplying the rebels with military assistance, Taylor and others have fueled the atrocities committed by the rebels upon the people of Sierra Leone. The U.S. should enact similar measures and conditions against Taylor and other Liberians as those I proposed for the rebels in Sierra Leone.

If the rebels are not disarmed and if Taylor and other Liberians continue to traffic in conflict diamonds and to provide the rebels with military assistance, Taylor and others should be named as war criminals and they should not be allowed to travel outside of their country. You should fix a date that you think is reasonable and helpful.

In a letter dated July 12 I wrote to President Clinton, Secretary Albright, and National Security Advisor Samuel Berger asking for the Administration's support for an amendment submitted by Representative TONY HALL and myself that was included in the Treasury, Postal Service and General Government appropriations subcommittee that would have

Yesterday the House Treasury, Postal Service and General Government appropriations subcommittee voted to include language submitted by Rep. Tony Hall and me in the FY 2001 Treasury spending bill that addresses the massive problems of conflict diamonds in Africa. I have heard reports that for some reason, your Administration opposes this provision.

The problem of conflict diamonds is one of the major reasons for the instability, death, and gross human rights abuses that are occurring throughout Africa. Your Administration to date has not addressed the issue of conflict diamonds. The language approved by the subcommittee yesterday will help to prevent the types of atrocities against millions of people, like the young girl and the young men in the enclosed pictures, who have had their limbs cut off by rebels intent on controlling and trafficking in conflict diamonds.

This is an opportunity for your Administration to take bold action to help the suffering people of Africa. Please support this effort. It is the right thing to do.

This language was never supported by the Administration. In fact, the Administration circulated a memo stating that they opposed the amendment, and this amendment was taken out of the Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government appropriations on the floor of the House, in part because of the Administration's opposition.

In a subsequent meeting with a staff member of the National Security Council, she declared to my staff and to Congressman TONY HALL that the Administration would work with us to draft and move legislation addressing conflict diamonds. Several months later, to my knowledge, this Administration has offered no legislative proposals to us, nor have they attended any subsequent legislative meetings or drafting sessions.

In a May 1, 2000 letter to President Clinton, I urged him to act quickly to prevent the continuing bloodshed and trafficking of conflict diamonds in Sierra Leone, saying:

An op-ed by Michael Kelly, from the July 19, 2000, Washington Post comments on an article published in the New Republic that describes how the verbosity of the Administration does not match their actions. Kelly observed how the Administration pushed the Govern-

ment of Sierra Leone into accepting the Lome Peace Accords, an agreement that placed rebel leader Foday Sankoh as head of the diamond commission and that allowed the prosperous diamond regions to remain under rebel control:

[U.S. Department of State spokesman Philip Reeker said] 'The United States did not pressure anybody to sign this agreement . . . We neither brokered the Lome peace agreement nor leaned on President Kabbah to open talks with the insurgents . . . It was not an agreement of ours' This is, in a sense, true. The United States was not a signatory to the Lome agreement; so it is not an agreement of 'of ours' But in a large sense, the surrender of Sierra Leone to the murdering mob was very much our handiwork . . .

And what did the U.S.-pushed agreement entail? Only that . . . "the democratic president of Sierra Leone . . . hand over much of his government and most of his country's wealth to one of the greatest monsters of the late 20th century." Sankoh was made vice president and given control of Sierra Leone's diamond mines; the RUF [Revolutionary United Front] was granted amnesty.

The bottom line is, like the rest of its Africa policy, this Administration is all talk and no action—they have had a touchdown policy where handshakes and smiles are exchanged, but where facts on the ground no unchanged and unaddressed.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE RESEARCHERS AND FARMERS FREEDOM FROM TERRORISM ACT

**HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2000*

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce legislation that will strike at the heart of a campaign of terror. Few people are aware of the growing terrorist threat that is festering here in America. I am speaking of the growing threat of animal rights violence.

All across America, animal rights terrorists have declared war on our nation's researchers and farmers. These terrorists claim that they are fighting for a noble cause. However, their violent reign of terror is not a noble or just cause; it is a threat to all Americans security and liberty. This campaign of violent, threatening, obstructive, and destructive conduct is aimed at researchers working towards cures for AIDS and cancer and family farms. The extent and interstate nature of this conduct place it beyond the ability of any single state or local jurisdiction to control. Such conduct has included blockades and invasions of research and farming, arson and other destruction of property, assaults, death threats, attempted murder, and murder. This violence can and should be prohibited. The right of injured parties to seek redress in the courts can be established without abridging the exercise of any rights guaranteed under the First Amendment to the constitution or under any other law.

For these reasons, I am introducing legislation to protect our nation's researchers and farmers from terrorists campaigns in the name of animal rights who restore to violence, property destruction, attempted homicide, blockades, and other vigilante tactics. We must